

MINUTES
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY

Tuesday, May 10, 2016
6:00 pm McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

Jana called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM

Present: Jana McGee, Dave Rollo, Gwen White, Teddie Mower, Jessica Pittman, Rebecca Swanson

Regrets: Bill Brown, Molly O'Donnell

Staff: Jacqui Bauer

Public: Alex Jorck, Citizens Climate Lobby

Public Comment: Alex Jorck attended to follow up on his presentation last month. He shared endorsement letter drafts with the commission, and the commission agreed to discuss at a mid-month meeting (set for May 24, 5:30pm) to decide what level of endorsement to commit to.

Announcements:

Gary Charbonneau has stepped down from the commission due to health concerns. Dave noted that council is interviewing new candidates.

Jacqui noted that local musicians Jesse Lacy and Jenn Cristy will be holding benefit concert at Players Pub at 6pm on May 26.

Gwen will be presenting on a sustainability reporting initiative to the Environmental Commission. She asked BCOS to consider supporting this effort as well. Dave noted that a student group presented to council recently on green infrastructure. He will share this report, and could be included in the reporting effort. The commission will discuss support for this effort at their May 24 mid-month meeting.

Approval of Minutes: The April 2016 minutes were approved unanimously.

Report from the Chair

The Environmental Commission has several working groups, and are open to having BCOS members attend these meetings. At one of the recent meetings, Jana shared info on the presentation by the Citizens Climate Lobby.

They are focused on their environmental action plan, and will include a section on water security as a follow-up on the Flint water crisis.

Committee updates:

- City as Commons: looking for additional members
- Food and Agriculture: working through the Food Policy Council, which meets the last Tuesday of the month.
- Tree Committee: works with Tree Commission, focused on developing guidelines for contractors.
- Waste and Recycling: Center for Sustainable Living is sponsoring a Master Recycler Program; looking at requiring recycling in apartment buildings
- Water quality: looking at Adopt-A-Stream program
- Growth Policies Plan: city looking at updating the karst ordinance

Report from the Sustainability Coordinator:

H2H update: volunteers made it through all 12 dorms in 2 days.

Energy Challenge: the Cook group has signed on as a Workplace Partner.

An energy disclosure ordinance was announced by the mayor on Earth Day, and the city is working out the details of exactly how this would work. Jacqui will keep the commission updated.

For the city website, Jacqui suggested that commission members try to gather info on how the website is currently organized, how other city websites are organized, to complete specific tasks, or

Committee reports and updates

1. Environmental Commission Planning Committee: no report
2. Environmental Commission: See report from the chair above
3. Bring Your Bag Bloomington update: no report

New Business: Rebecca expressed interest in finding a better solution for pet waste, including power generation, composting, other possible solutions. Solutions for pet waste was one of the major barriers to the plastic bag ordinance. Rebecca will gather more info on possible options.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15.

Next Meeting: June 14th, McCloskey Room, City Hall at 6:00 p.m.